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Brendle et al.

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- **ABSTRACT** (57)

Methods and apparatus, including computer program products, that include representing, in a repository, services from a server, the services including interacting with one or more collections of data elements using a set of operations on the data elements in the collections, the repository comprising descriptions of the collections and common attributes for each collection, the repository organized according to a meta model. The method also includes enabling a software entity to request a service represented in the repository, the service representing a first operation on one or more data elements in a first collection from the collections, and executing the first operation on the one or more data elements in the first collection.

#### (54) SELF-DESCRIBING BUSINESS OBJECTS

Inventors: Rainer Brendle, Neckargemuend (DE); Frank Brunswig, Heidelberg (DE); Josef Dietl, Nussloch (DE); Rolf Krane, Wiesloch (DE); Juergen Remmel, Muehlhausen (DE); Stephan Ritter, Saarbruecken (DE); Johannes Viegener, Karlsruhe (DE)

> Correspondence Address: FISH & RICHARDSON, P.C. 3300 DAIN RAUSCHER PLAZA **60 SOUTH SIXTH STREET** MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402 (US)

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